

The Presbyterian of the South

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Church News

VIRGINIA.

Hampden-Sidney College: At a recent meeting the Board of Trustees decided to shorten the session and eliminate almost all of the usual commencement features in view of the present war situation. Examinations will end on May 31st, and very brief graduating exercises will be held in McIlwaine chapel that evening. In omitting the elaborate program that customarily marks the conclusion of the college session, the board has endeavored to be in accord with the suggestion of President Wilson as to simplifying all public functions.

Since the message to Congress was delivered on April 2d the students have been engaged in daily drill, and have made rapid progress in their grasp of military tactics. Every student in college signed an agreement to do this work and at a competitive drill just held between the two student companies both acquitted themselves with high credit. Company B, under the command of student Captain E. T. Neal, of Richmond, won the honors of the day.

All of the members of the senior class, save one, are of military age. Quite a large number of the lower classmen are also subject to the Government's call. A large proportion of the students will go to the farm after the session closes and will thus endeavor to "do their bit" in the campaign for national preparedness.

Cadet Captain W. M. Ellingsworth and Cadet Captain Sergeant W. R. Williams, of Richmond, were, by the courtesy of the V. P. I. authorities, detailed to take charge of the military training here and have proven most skilful and acceptable.

Brookneal: Rev. B. F. Bedinger, evangelist of Roanoke Presbytery, conducted a meeting here beginning the first Sunday and continuing through the second Sunday of May. A great deal of interest was manifest from the very beginning. A cold rain fell for two or three days, yet a good crowd was present at each service. Mr. Bedinger preached the word with his usual simplicity and power, and we feel that his stay with us has strengthened us and given us new zeal and courage in the Master's work. The communion of the Lord's Supper was celebrated last Sunday, at which time four were received on profession of faith and one on statement from the Baptist church.

Churchville: Lochwillow and Union, Rev. William C. White, pastor, will have as assistant for the summer months Rev. W. Emmet Davis, of Salters, S. C.

Mr. Davis has spent two summers already in this work, and both pastor and people will welcome him back. Preparations are going on for the centennial celebration on July 29th of Old Union church.

Olivet: Rev. W. W. Sprouse was installed at this church on the evening of May 3rd. Rev. A. M. Fraser, D. D., presiding and preaching the sermon; Rev. William C. White charging the pastor and making the prayer; Rev. D. K. Walthall, D. D., charging the people.

A large congregation was gathered for the occasion, enjoyed the services, which were very appropriate, and giving the new pastor a very cordial welcome.

Lexington: Sunday morning, May 20th, the session held a meeting, presided over by the assistant pastor, Rev. James N. Montgomery, as the senior pastor, Rev. Dr. A. T. Graham, is attending the General Assembly in Birmingham. A student of Washington and Lee University was received by the session on examination, and afterwards, at the morning session, made his public profession, and received the ordinance of baptism.

The pulpit was occupied in the morning by Mr. Montgomery, and at night by Dr. Henry Louis Smith, president of Washington and Lee University. A. H.

ALABAMA.

Birmingham: Thirty-fifth Avenue church is located in North Birmingham, Ala. The present supply is Rev. G. W. Tollett. He has been here less than one year, during which time he has met with the sad loss of his wife. The field is one that has had many and still has some features of peculiar difficulties, but it is one of great promise and is beginning to yield encouraging results. During our meeting we did much house to house and personal work; visiting sixty-five homes and many places of business, having a word of prayer in almost every home where we went. The attendance and interest were most encouraging as well as the visible results. Some promised to erect family altars; many pledged themselves to better lives. Several declared their purpose to unite with other churches. We received seventeen members into our church, all of whom were heads of families except three. There were twenty-eight children dedicated to God in baptism. Six officers were elected, ordained and installed, viz., as elders, Walter Aslin and T. C. Park; and as deacons, W. J. King, J. W. Godwin, G. L. Lyda and Fred. Hennigan. The sum of \$35.81 was raised for all purposes. The sum of \$249.60 was pledged towards an increase of the minister's salary. They have a most active Ladies' Aid Society, a good Sunday-school and Young People's Society.

Wm. H. Richardson.

APPALACHIA.

At the request of the Home Missions Committee of Holston Presbytery, the Home Missions Committee of the Synod of Appalachia directed me as evangelist to give my time for six months to Holston Presbytery, in order to get the Home Mission work organized and systematized. Since April the first I have been working on this problem, and am glad to say that the Home Mission churches which I have visited have increased \$1,600 in pastoral support, so that we now have arranged three pastorates, and are looking for men to supply them. They are: 1st. Newport, Tenn., salary

\$1,000.00, and they want a man for whole time. 2nd. Four churches, Spruce Pine, Grassey Creek, Newdale and Vian's Valley, in Mitchell and Yancey Counties, N. C., salary \$985.00, and 3rd, Meadow Creek, Leesburg and Rheatown churches in Tennessee, salary \$1,170, and nice manse with five acres of land attached. This is an all country group and offers a desirable field for a man who wants to live in the country, and is willing and able to do active work. A good many churches are yet to be visited and I shall hold meetings at as many places as possible during the summer.

Frank D. Hunt,
Evangelist.

GEORGIA.

Presbytery of Atlanta will meet in adjourned session in the Central church of Atlanta Tuesday, June 5th, at 11 A. M. Important business. A full attendance is desirable.

W. A. Murray, S. C.

Atlanta: The great fire of Atlanta last week swept through the congregation of the Westminster Presbyterian church, destroying perhaps three-fourths of the homes of the members of this church. The fire swept through with such rapidity that few household goods were saved. The Westminster Presbyterian church and manse were entirely destroyed. The pastor, Rev. A. A. Little, lost all of his books save his study Bible. He also saved a few pieces of household furniture.

On the very night of the fire he took steps to secure a tent and seating, which was placed at once on the spacious grounds of the church. Sunday-school and church were held on Sunday morning, as usual.

With the usual Atlanta spirit, the people are preparing to rebuild their homes, and in a few months no doubt many of the people will be living in their accustomed places. The church is looking forward very hopefully to a large influx of new people, who will no doubt come in as soon as the houses are rebuilt.

The people are full of gratitude to the Almighty God that there were no casualties save one among the thousands of people who were made homeless, and are also grateful to the thousands of friends, in the city of Atlanta and outside, who have expressed their sympathy both by words and deeds.

All the other churches in this district of the city, of the Methodist and Baptist faiths, were burned and their pastors' homes.

Rev. W. H. Wiley, Superintendent of Evangelism for the General Assembly, and Rev. John Goff, evangelist for Atlanta Presbytery, lost their household effects and their libraries.

A. A. Little.

FLORIDA.

Muscogee and Milton: Dr. William E. McIlwaine, the evangelist of Florida Presbytery, has just been with me in a series of services in these churches. Much good was accomplished in revival of members, and a number of accessions. At Muscogee, one young man signified his willingness to become a candidate for the ministry. Dr. McIlwaine's preaching is of a high order, plain, practicable and convincing. His splendid sermons were enjoyed by all. The churches of this Presbytery that fail to secure his services will miss a rare and most excellent opportunity. Those who wish him may write Dr. A. S. Moffett, Pensacola.

W. F. Harris.

KENTUCKY.

Jackson, Guerrant Memorial: On

Sunday, the 13th, the Guerrant Memorial Presbyterian church was formally opened. However, it was not dedicated. It is hoped that in the not far distant future this may be done, but not until the entire debt has been subscribed. The first service to be held was a sunrise prayer meeting, conducted by Mr. Thomas B. Talbot, Home Mission secretary of West Lexington Presbytery. This was a most impressive and beautiful service. Dr. William Cumming, of Winchester, Ky., an old friend of Dr. Guerrant's and pastor of a church of which one son is a member, preached the opening sermon. This was largely attended and said to be one of the best sermons ever heard here. In the afternoon, Mr. Horace Taylor, secretary of Morgan's Men in Kentucky, of which Dr. Guerrant was a member, conducted a memorial service. There were many beautiful tributes paid this great lover of the mountain people by men who knew him best. Morgan's men are giving the new church their beautiful pews, while the U. D. C.'s of Kentucky are giving the pulpit furniture. Miss Kitty McMullen, of China, spoke at the the Christian Endeavor meeting in the evening and at the Sunday-school service. This was greatly enjoyed. The evening service was greatly attended and the hearers deeply impressed by the sermon of Rev. A. H. Doak, pastor of Dr. Guerrant's home church at Wilmore, Ky. There were a number of out-of-town visitors. The church has been greatly admired, and a cut will be shown in the next issue of this paper. Those who responded to the invitations by gifts of money we wish to thank, and those who during the erection of this church have given so liberally and cheerfully we heartily thank. There is still a debt of several hundred dollars, and any who wish to contribute may feel sure their gifts will be appreciated. This church will ever perpetuate the memory of its founder by being of great service in this wide home mission field.

MISSISSIPPI.

Ackerman: The people of Ackerman have enjoyed the privilege of hearing the Rev. John Wood, of Umatilla, Fla., in a ten-days' series of services, closing May 20th. Rev. Mr. Wood is a forceful preacher. The truth was presented in clear, plain language so that every person might get a lesson for everyday life. Those who attended regularly and prayerfully received great blessings and renewed strength for their Christian life. Mr. Wood and the local pastor, Rev. H. S. Henderson, are now conducting a meeting at Louisville. The prayers and good wishes of the Ackerman people go with the ministers that they may bring blessings from God to the people of Louisville.

H.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Davidson: Taking the place of the regular mid-week prayer meeting there was held in the Presbyterian church last evening a joint meeting of the several denominations to effect a temporary organization of a Red Cross chapter, preliminary to formal application for admittance in due form into the National or American Red Cross. Dr. J. M. McConnell presided, a large choir of young people sang a number of appropriate hymns and songs, and Rev. W. A. Jenkins, of the Methodist church, led in prayer. By a previously arranged program, brief remarks setting forth the history of, the purpose of, the need for, the needs of and the conditions to be met in seeking admittance into the

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